

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/021,358	VANDER AA, JO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	John S. Chu	1752	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 5/18/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2 and 6-28.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>5/3/04</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The claimed invention is drawn to the following:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of making a lithographic printing master comprising the steps of:

providing an imaging material which comprises a lithographic base having a hydrophilic surface and a non-ablative image-recording layer comprising hydrophobic thermoplastic polymer particles which is removable in a single-fluid ink or can be rendered removable in a single-fluid ink by exposure to heat ~~or light~~;

image-wise exposing the image-recording layer to heat ~~or light~~; and

processing the material by supplying to the image-recording layer a single-fluid ink which is an emulsion of an ink phase and a non-aqueous polar phase.

17. (New) A method of making a lithographic printing master comprising the steps of:

providing an imaging material which comprises a lithographic base having a hydrophilic surface and a non-ablative image-recording layer comprising an aryldiazosulfonate polymer which is removable in a single-fluid ink or can be rendered removable in a single-fluid ink by exposure to light;

image-wise exposing the image-recording layer to light; and

processing the material by supplying to the image-recording layer a single-fluid ink which is an emulsion of an ink phase and a non-aqueous polar phase.

The rejection outstanding in prior to the filing of the RCE on May 18, 2004 was a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over VERMEERSCH et al '128 in view of KINGMAN and TENG '222 for claims 17-28 and a rejection over VERMEERSCH et al '750 in view of KINGMAN and TENG '222.

The arguments by applicant have been carefully considered with respect to the material differences in the prior art references and the appropriateness of their combination under 35 U.S.C. 103. Upon further consideration the differences as expressed in the arguments are convincing and the rejection as given in the previous Office actions will not be repeated. The

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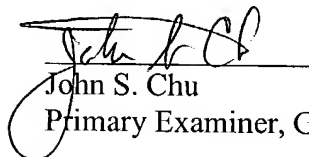
prior art reference to TENG '222 ,which discloses the use of a single fluid ink for developing lithographic printing plates is not seen to be properly combinable with the VERMEERSCH et al '128 or '750 references, accordingly the recited claims are seen as allowable and claims 1,2 and 6-28 are passed to issue.

2. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Chu whose telephone number is (571) 272-1329. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 9:30 am to 6:00 pm.

The fax phone number for the USPTO is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1700.


John S. Chu
Primary Examiner, Group 1700

J.Chu
June 21, 2004